

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 11, 14 and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1, 11, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being “indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.” (Office Action at 4). Specifically, the Office Action asserts that the claim recitation that “a value is based on a color is shown by said background information” is unclear as “[I]t is uncertain as to whether a number, a data or a value is displayed/shown.” (Office Action at 4; emphasis in original). Claims 1, 11, 14 and 15 have been amended to recite that the background information “indicates a value based on a color” and to obviate, therefore, the rejection. Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claims 1, 3-6, 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bollman (U.S. Patent No. 6,778,684) (“Bollman”). Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Bollman in view of Bottou et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,900,953) (“Bottou”). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant notes that, in the present invention, the area where the drawing object is formed is calculated based on at least one attribute (the character style, the character color, the line type, the line thickness, and the like (lines 9-10 on page 28; line 18 on page 34; step S4 in Fig. 5; step S105 in Fig. 10)) when the drawing object is character information (step S2 in Fig. 5; step S104 in Fig. 10) and the background information indicates a value based on a color as a reference in the uniform color space for a single color forming image in the area where the drawing object is formed (lines 9-18 on page 22, lines 21-25 on page 28). Thus, even if a part of character information is sent as a graphic image because a character decoration or the like is performed by

application software, there is no problem such that a part of a character color is improperly changed (lines 19-25 on page 23; lines 15-22 on page 36). Neither Bollman nor Bottou discloses, teaches or suggests the above-noted features of the claimed invention.

Allowance of pending claims 1, 2 and 4-15 is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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